U. S. AIDE SEIZED IN JORDAN CAPITAL

Sergeant Believed Held by Palestinian Commandos

AMMAN, Jordan, Sept. 7 (Reuters)—An American sergeant assigned to the United States Embassy here has been kidnapped, the embassy announced today as new violence flared in Amman between Arab commandos and Jordanian troops.

The sergeant, who was not identified, has been missing since Saturday, and the Jordanian Government was trying to get him released, the embassy said.

An embassy spokesman did not identify the kidnappers, but they were believed to be Palestinian commandos.

During commando clashes in June, Morris Draper, first secretary at the embassy, was kidnapped by commandos but released unharmed after 24 hours.

Fighting in Amman

Meanwhile, Palestine commandos and Jordanian security forces clashed today in Amman and its suburbs despite a two-day agreement to ease tension in the capital.

Most stores were closed and people stayed in their homes as fighting broke out in various parts of the city. There were reports of casualties, but no exact figures.

The two sides agreed Saturday to pull back forces in Amman after several clashes last week. Fighting began in various provincial towns during the weekend and later spread to Amman. Weekend fighting added 70 casualties to the 200 reported in Amman last week.

The Government blamed the commandos for the fighting. An official Government spokesman said the commandos had started a mass search of houses in one area of the city and had detained several Jordanian soldiers. He said military and civilian vehicles had been stolen.

Television and broadcasting stations outside Amman came under machine-gun and rocket fire and a police post at Wadi Sir, north of Amman, was attacked, the spokesman said.

Guerrillas in the center of the city seized a vehicle and its two occupants, including the driver, while a traffic policeman watched. The guerrillas then drove off through the crowded hilly streets followed by jeeps carrying armed guerrillas and the occupants of the captured vehicle.

At Al-Wahdat refugee camp, main guerrilla stronghold in the Amman area, tension mounted after commandos built roadblocks of sandbags.

King Hussein denied in a broadcast last night that he was trying to liquidate the commando movement. Observers said they believed the unscheduled broadcast, the King's third in eight days, was prompted by the weekend clashes.

Shortly before the broadcast over Amman radio and television, automatic fire and explosions were heard in the Jebel al-Nuzha area, north of the city.

The newspaper Fatah, organ of one Palestinian group, referred today to a number of shooting incidents in Amman yesterday and accused the Jordanian authorities of responsibility for them. "The Palestinian revolution will not keep silent for long and will strike at the heads of the conspiracy," it said.